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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" The Minister was good enough to say that some works have been undertaken by the Government; may I know how many works have been taken up by the Government and how many have been given to contractors? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I want notice of that question, Sir."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" May I know, Sir, whether definite rules have been laid down regulating the relationship between the contractors and the labourers? I am asking the question because the contractors have been misusing their position and exploiting labour."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" That is why, Sir, the Government have ordered that at least 87½ per cent should be paid as wages to labourers. In the human set up of things, some misuse or abuse may arise, but if hon. Members would bring them to my notice, I will look into them."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister was pleased to say that the contractors were not given money in time and the contractors did not pay to workmen and that all this is due to the peculiar state of the Budget. Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is a Contingency Fund of Rs. 1 crore, from which he could draw money? " 10–50 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The hon. Member has been in this House longer than myself and I am thankful to him for the information he has given. Perhaps taking advantage of that, the Government have ordered that the money could be paid."

Scheme of metalled roads for the Malabar district.

* 167 Q.—JANAB K. M. SEETHI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to place on the table a copy of the scheme of metalled roads recommended for the Malabar District by Mr. Vipen?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The scheme of metalled roads recommended by Mr. Vipen for Malabar District will be found on pages 134 and 135 of the " Scheme of Road Development of the Madras Presidency " by Mr. Vipen, published in 1935. A copy of the scheme is available in the Library of the Legislature."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" What is the total number of road miles in Malabar and its ratio or relationship with other parts of the State—Andhra and Tamil Nad? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Notice, Sir."

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SRI PADMAPRABHA GOUNDER :—" May I know whether the Vittri–Thariod Road in Wynaad is going to be metalled, and if so, when do the Government propose to take up the job as there is heavy timber traffic on this road?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Even for this question, notice is required. Anyway, the suggestion will be considered."

JANAB K. M. SEETHI :—" May I know how many of the roads recommended by Mr. Vipen have been constructed after the report was submitted?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" I think, this scheme is an old scheme and it has been revised. Many more roads are added. To give detailed information, I want notice."

Gruel centres for Cuddapah district.

* 168 Q.—SRI N. SIVARAMI REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have ordered the Collector of Cuddapah to stop opening any more gruel centres in Cuddapah district or to go slow with them ; and

(*b*) whether the Government have received any representations from the public and the Taluk Famine Relief Advisory Committees to open gruel centres in Rajampet, Pulivendla and Kamalapuram taluks?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) & (*b*) No."

SRI N. SIVARAMI REDDI :—" Are the Government aware that more than 25 gruel centres in the Cuddapah district—22 in Kamalapuram sub-taluk and 3 in Cuddapah taluk—have been closed a week back though the famine conditions remain the same in that area? If not, will the Government take cognizance of the same and order their immediate restoration and also assure this House that no gruel centre will be closed until conditions of large-scale employment prevail, that is, till the harvest time?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" My information is that no gruel centres have been closed. On the other hand, instructions have been given that if more centres are required, they must be opened."

SRI G. YELLAMANDA REDDI :—" Sir, have the Government ordered to close gruel centres in the famine affected areas of Nellore district?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" The main question is about Cuddapah district. Let the hon. Member give notice of a fresh question."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, in view of the fact that dangerous diseases like cholera are widespread in the Cuddapah district, will the Government consider the desirability of opening not only